

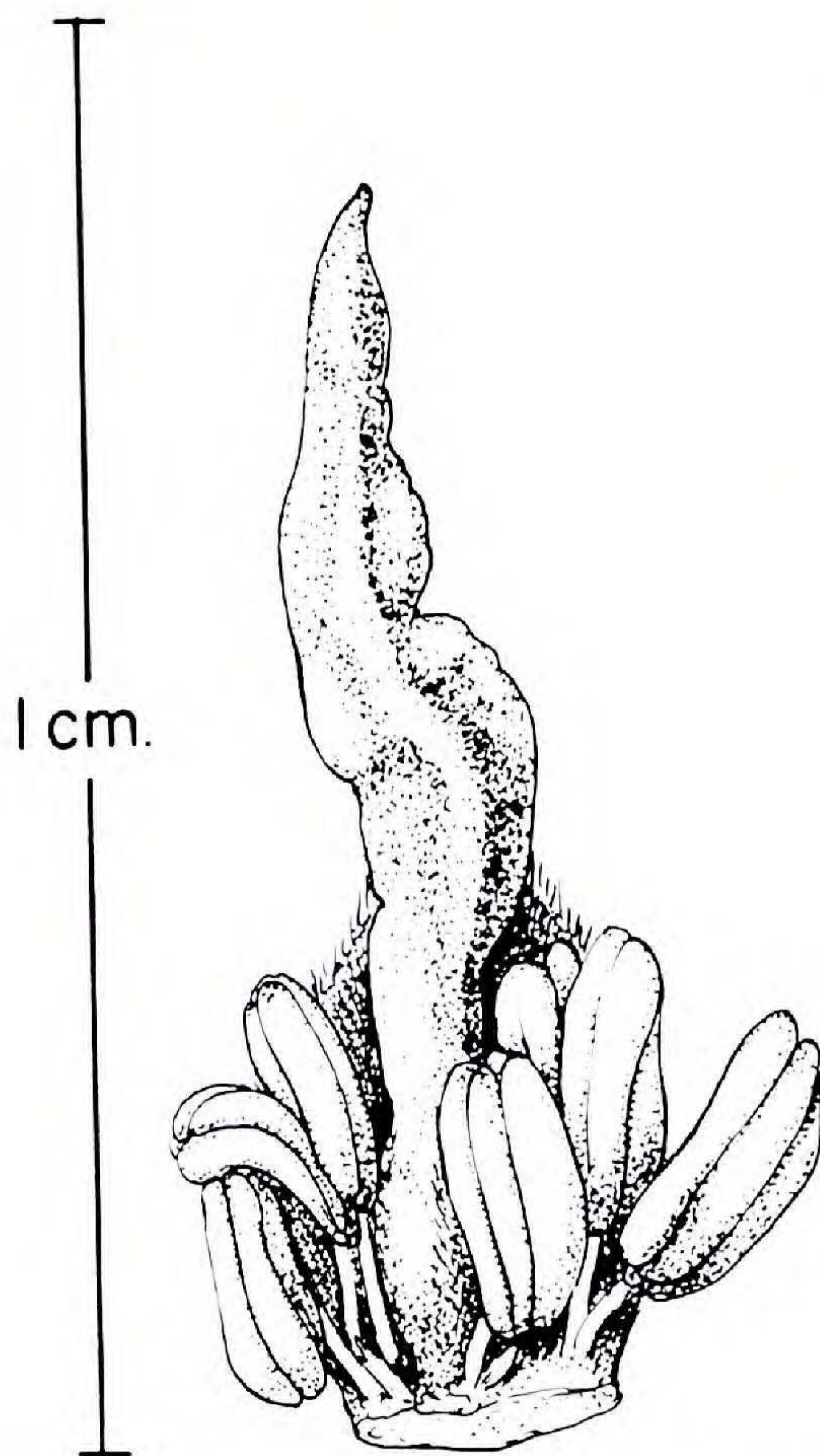
Thus it is clear that the plant heretofore known as *X. flexuosa* Muhl. ex Ell. is actually *X. caroliniana* Walter, and what a type or at least an authentic specimen has at last been located. It should be mentioned that *Xyris flexuosa* Muhl. ex Ell., Sketch Bot. S.C. & Ga. 1: 51, 1816, is an illegitimate name, since both *X. caroliniana* and *X. jupicai* are cited as synonyms without qualification. I am indebted to Dr. Shinnors for bringing this point to my attention. Thus any proposal to treat *X. caroliniana* as a *nomen confusum* could not permit the continued use of the name *X. flexuosa*.

The investigation of *Xyris* which led to this note is being supported by a research grant (GB-159) from the National Science Foundation. An account of *Xyris* in North America north of Mexico has been completed and is awaiting publication.—Robert Kral, Department of General Biology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.

POLYGAMODIOECIOUS LEITNERIA FLORIDANA (LEITNERIA-CEAE).—*Leitneria floridana*, composing the monotypic family Leitneriaceae, is, to our knowledge, known as a dioecious plant. Its floral structures are specialized (reduced) and its possible relationships have been variously interpreted. One may refer to a recent treatment (Channell, R. B. and C. E. Wood, Jr., The Leitneriaceae in the southeastern United States, Jour. Arn. Arb. 43: 435-438, 1962) for pertinent references and well illustrated structural details of staminate and carpellate catkins.

Here we wish simply to report on a population of *Leitneria floridana* in which, besides the usual dioecious condition, there are plants having catkins some cymules of which are bisexual. We have not analyzed the population for relative numbers of individuals and/or clones exhibiting each sexual condition. Neither have we attempted to obtain a statistical measure of the number of bisexual cymules in catkins on the monoecious plants.

This population is near North River in the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, Wakulla County, Florida. At the time of our visit, March 1, 1964, most plants were at anthesis. The relatively large, rather lax, brownish-yellow, conspicuous staminate catkins are in marked contrast, even from some distance, to the smaller, stiffly erect, dark red carpellate catkins. While meandering around (wading), we came to realize that the catkins of some plants had an appearance unlike that which we had come to recognize as typical of either sex. Such catkins much resembled the usual males but were for the most part shorter, more stiffly erect, plumper and more congested. Close examination revealed that although they were conspicuously stamen-bearing, in some catkins (not all, by any means) from 1 to 10 or more red styles were protruding. Dissection



*Bisexual cymule of Leitneria floridana*

of numerous bisexual cymules revealed that each is comprised of a single carpel and from 1 to at least 8 stamens. On the lower portion of the catkin a bisexual cymule frequently consists of 2 groups of 3 stamens with 1 carpel between. Near the tips of the catkin, the carpel is often to one side, a cluster of 2-4 stamens to the other.

Voucher specimen: Godfrey 63248 and Clewell (FSU).

If there be someone who wishes to make a comprehensive study of this population, we offer our services to the extent of escorting him to the locality.—R. K. Godfrey and Andre F. Clewell, *The Florida State University, Tallahassee.*